Scottish Rite Places Records In Cornerstone

Final event in connection with the dedication of the new Scottish Rite Cathedral took place Monday morning as officials placed a box containing Scottish Rite records and other items in the cornerstone of the cathedral at Eighth and Ohio streets. Formal dedication of the building was held last June but circumstances prevented the cornerstone box ceremony at that time.

Articles placed in the copper box which was sealed in the wall of the building included, among them, Terre Haute newspapers published the day of the dedication, records of the first classes of Scottish Rite when it was established here in 1951, minutes of the original meetings, pictures of the charter and dedication classes and other items.

Marvin Foulke, thrice potent master, officiated at the brief ceremony. Frank Martin served as chairman of the cornerstone deposit committee while other members were W. L. White, Thirty-third Degree Mason and chairman of the building committee; Earle O. Prater, executive secretary; J. O. Arney, treasurer; Leroy Francis, deputy master; Wayne Weber, architect; Charles F. Woods, builder; Howard Armstrong, Thirty-third Degree Mason; J. B. Freeman, and Ray Compton.

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WABASH THEATER NEW CATHEDRAL FOR CONSISTORY

Scottish Rite, Valley of Terre Haute, Friday morning acquired a new permanent cathedral with the purchase of the Wabash Theater, one of the city's downtown landmarks. The transaction was completed this morning after several months of negotiation. Purchase price was $100,000.

W.L. White, who headed the building committee for the new cathedral, said the building is well adapted for use of the Scottish Rite in presenting its degree work.

Built in 1915 for a vaudeville house and operated as the Hippodrome Orpheum Circuit, the building later was remodeled for a movie house and the name changed to Wabash. It was purchased today from the Wabash Theaters Corporation of which Joseph P. McKibben is president.

A number of alterations are being made to the building and it is expected to be ready for occupancy on or before Jan. 1. Plans call for bricking up the doors and show windows on the first and second floors, removal of the mar-uee, remodeling of rooms on the first and second floors and cleaning and renovating the entire interior.

Will Remodel Lobby

The present lobby will be converted into a central lounge with the secretary's offices, a registration room and coat room occupying the remainder of the first floor. The stated meeting room and candidates room will be located on the second floor.

First convocation in the new cathedral will be held in the late spring and will be called the Dedication Class. Officers of the Indiana Council of Deliberation and representatives of the Supreme Council will officiate at the dedication ceremonies at that time.

Present building of the Consistory at 3206 Wabash Avenue has been sold to the World Gospel Church. It was purchased in 19 after petitions of some 2,000 members for establishment of the Scottish Rite bodies here. Membership has continued to grow and the fall class of 129 members brought the roster to over 3,100 members.

First Grant in 1950

First dispensation for the Scottish Rite bodies was granted Sept. 2, 1950, for the Terre Haute Lodge Perfection, which received its charter Nov. 7, 1951. In September 1951, a dispensation was granted the local group for the Samuel Jackson Council, Princes of Jerusalem, which was chartered the following year, about the same time that dispensation was granted for the Horace E. Tune Chapter.

Terre Haute Tribune, Dec. 7, 1956